

AVERP2544USA

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :

Mitchell J. Rackovan et al. :

Group Art Unit:

Express Mail: EV040724135US :

Examiner:

Filed: January 22, 2002 :

For: HALOGEN-FREE, PRINTABLE, MULTILAYERED SHRINK  
FILMS AND ARTICLES ENCAPSULATED THEREIN

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Box Patent Application  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above application, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification by inserting, before the first line, the following sentence:

This application is a continuation of copending application 09/187,715 filed November 6, 1998.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. A halogen-free, multilayered heat shrink film comprising (A) a core layer comprising a copolymer of ethylene or propylene with an alpha olefin containing from about 3 to about 12 carbon atoms, the core having an upper and lower surface, (B) a skin layer on the upper surface of the core

layer, wherein the skin layer comprises a polyolefin or polyolefin blend and (C) a printable layer having an upper surface and lower surface, and comprising a blend of a polyolefin and a soft polar additive, wherein the upper surface of the printable layer is in contact with the lower surface of the core layer, and wherein the shrinkage of the film is at least about 30%.

10. The film of claim 1 wherein the polyolefin of (C) is an ethylene or propylene homopolymer or a copolymer of ethylene and propylene.
11. A halogen-free, multilayered heat shrink film comprising (A) a core layer comprising a blend of (1) a copolymer of ethylene or propylene with an alpha olefin and (2) a homopolymer of an olefin, and having an upper and lower surface, (B) a skin layer on the upper surface of the core layer, wherein the skin layer comprises a polyolefin homopolymer of a blend of a polyolefin homopolymer and a copolymer of ethylene or propylene and an alpha olefin and (C) a printable layer having an upper surface and a lower surface wherein the upper surface of the printable layer is in contact with the lower surface of the core layer, wherein the printable layer comprises a blend of a polyolefin and a soft polar additive, and wherein the shrinkage of the film is at least about 35%.
14. The film of claim 11 wherein the polyolefin homopolymer of (B) is polypropylene or polybutene and the copolymer is a propylene butene copolymer.
15. The film of claim 11 wherein the polyolefin of (C) is a polypropylene or polyethylene and the soft polar additive is ethylene vinyl acetate.

Please cancel claim 9 without prejudice.

Please refer to the attached Appendix for a marked-up version of the amended claims.

**REMARKS**

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-8 and 10-19 will be pending in the application. Applicants enclose herewith the formal drawings. Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of claims 1-8 and 10-19.

Respectfully submitted,

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## APPENDIX

1. A halogen-free, multilayered heat shrink film comprising (A) a core layer comprising a copolymer of ethylene or propylene with an alpha olefin containing from about 3 to about 12 carbon atoms, [and] the core having an upper and lower surface, (B) a skin layer on the upper surface of the core layer, wherein the skin layer comprises a polyolefin or polyolefin blend and (C) a printable layer having an upper surface and lower surface, and comprising a blend of a polyolefin and a soft polar additive, wherein the upper surface of the printable layer is in contact with[on] the lower surface of the core layer, and wherein the shrinkage of the film is at least about 30%.
10. The film of claim [9] 1 wherein the polyolefin of (C) is an ethylene or propylene homopolymer or a copolymer of ethylene and propylene.
11. A halogen-free, multilayered heat shrink film comprising (A) a core layer comprising a blend of (1) a copolymer of ethylene or propylene with an alpha olefin and (2) a homopolymer of an olefin, and having an upper and lower surface, (B) a skin layer on the upper surface of the core layer, wherein the skin layer comprises a polyolefin homopolymer of a blend of a polyolefin homopolymer and a copolymer of ethylene or propylene and an alpha olefin and (C) a printable layer having an upper surface and a lower surface wherein the upper surface of the printable layer is in contact with [on] the lower surface of the core layer, wherein the printable layer comprises a blend of a polyolefin and a soft polar additive, and wherein the shrinkage of the film is at least about 35%.
14. The film of claim 11 wherein the polyolefin homopolymer of (B) is polypropylene or polybutene and the copolymer is a propylene butene copolymer.

15. The film of claim 11 wherein the polyolefin of (C) is a polypropylene or polyethylene and the soft polar additive is ethylene vinyl acetate.